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Technical Note
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U. S. FOREST SERVICE
CALIFORNIA FOREST AND RANGE EXPERIMENT STATION
Berkeley, CaliforniaPRELIMINARY STATEMENT ON ^{1/}
PRODUCTION OF LUMBER AND OTHER TIMBER PRODUCTS IN CALIFORNIA, 1939

This is a preliminary summary of data submitted in returns from the lumber census of California and Nevada conducted for the Census Bureau by the Forest Service. The quantities tabulated are those reported by 254 mills. A few late returns may change the summary figures slightly, in addition to possible corrections which may be made in the final published report by the Bureau of the Census.

LUMBER CUT - M FT. B.M.
(Mills cutting 50 M or over)

SPECIES	PINE REGION		REDWOOD REGION		TOTAL	
	Volume	Percent	Volume	Percent	Volume	Percent
Ponderosa pine	836,063	64.9	466	.1	836,529	49.6
Sugar pine	250,382	19.5	304 (6)	-	250,686	14.8
White fir	(2) 42,752	3.3	391	.1	43,143	2.6
Douglas fir	124,187	9.7	47,652	11.9	171,839	10.2
Cedar	(3) 33,872	2.6	4,657	1.2	38,529	2.3
Redwood	(5) 38	(6) -	(4) 343,260	85.7	343,398	20.3
Spruce	-	-	3,865	1.0	3,865	.2
Lodgepole pine	10	(6) -	-	-	10	(6) -
TOTALS	1,287,304	100.0	400,695	100.0	1,687,999	100.0

In addition to the above, 37 mills producing less than

50 M each cut

TOTAL, all mills

891
1,688,890

Lath 15,173 M pcs.

1,430 M pcs.

16,603 M pcs.

Shingles 2,553 Squares

107,906 Squares

110,459 Squares

- (2) Includes California red fir (Abies magnifica), which is not produced in sufficient quantity to have established a separate market status.
 (3) The pine region cut was incense cedar with the exception of 84 M feet of Port Orford; all of the redwood region cedar was Port Orford.
 (4) Redwood of the coast - Sequoia sempervirens.
 (5) Redwood of the pine region - Sequoia washingtoniana.
 (6) Negligible.

COMPARATIVE PRODUCTION SINCE 1928

Totals, including hardwoods, for all mills in California (and Nevada when mills operated) cutting 50 M feet and over per annum, showing the 1939 data in contrast with earlier years, in M feet b.m.:

Year	Cut M feet	Year	Cut M feet
1929	2,063,229	1935	1,355,713
1930	1,514,263	1936	1,647,537
1931	957,740	1937	1,775,734
1932	680,520	1938	1,461,961
1933	784,626	1939	1,687,999
1934	1,014,747		

The survey to date for 1939 shows a total lumber production of 1,687,999 M feet, the second largest annual production since 1929, and represents an increase of 226,038 M feet, or 15.46 percent over the preceding year. While each species shared in the increase, ponderosa pine accounted for 153,097 M feet of this amount and sugar pine for 41,258 M feet, a gain of 22.40 percent and 19.70 percent, respectively. The increase in the production of redwood over the previous year was 26,762 M feet, or 8.45 percent. Ponderosa pine alone accounts for nearly half of the lumber produced.

Of the 254 mills reporting, 90 cut upward of one million feet. The mills reporting less than one million feet number 164.

The production of lath decreased 33.54 percent compared with 1938; shingle production increased 34.39 percent.

SPLIT PRODUCTS

	PINE REGION		REDWOOD REGION		TOTAL	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	No. pcs.	dollars	No. pcs.	dollars	No. pcs.	dollars
Ties	-	-	267,200	149,961	267,200	149,961
Posts	1,390	167	202,154	26,962	203,544	27,129
Stakes	26,700	1,335	1,559,435	44,721	1,586,135	46,056
Shakes	275,000	3,090	703,500	12,159	978,500	15,249

The split products summary, compared with the figures for 1937, reveals a decline in production of all products. Since the industry is made up of a large number of small operators, many of them working on a contract or piece-work basis, often part time only, and with inadequate records of production, it is difficult to get complete accurate returns.

